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London

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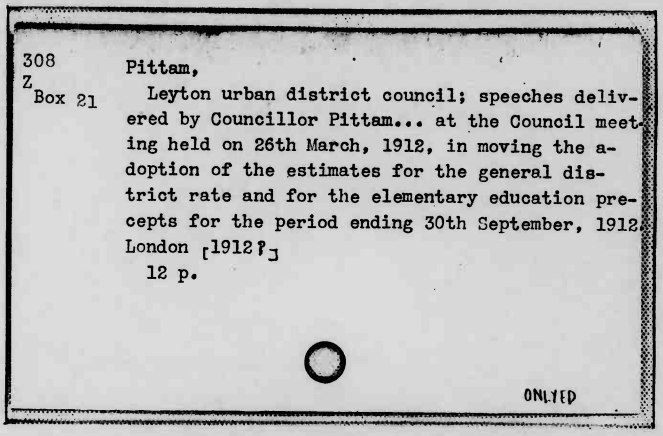

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Pittam,
Leyton urban district council; speeches delivered by Councillor Pittam... at the Council meeting held on 26th March, 1912, in moving the adoption of the estimates for the general district rate and for the elementary education precepts for the period ending 30th September, 1912.
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Leyton Urban District Council.

SPEECHES

DELIVERED BY

COUNCILLOR PITTAM,

Chairman of the Finance Committee,

AT THE

COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 26TH MARCH, 1912,

In moving the adoption of the Estimates for the General District Rate and for the Elementary Education Precepts for the period ending 30th September, 1912.

London:
WATERLOW BROS. & LAYTON, LIMITED, 24 and 25, BIRCHIN LANE, E.C.

Leyton Urban District Council.

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London:
WATERLOW BROS. & LAYTON, LIMITED, 24 and 25, BIRCHIN LANE, E.C.

30 MAR 1912

Leyton Urban District Council.

Speech delivered by the Chairman of the Finance Committee (COUNCILLOR PITTAM) *at the Meeting of the Council held on the 26th March*, 1912, *in moving the adoption of the Estimate for the General District Rate for the period ending 30th September*, 1912.

When the Estimates were prepared at this time last year, the net expenditure of the Council in respect of its administrative work was estimated at £75,724. The effect of the revision of the Estimates at September last for the half-year now ending was to add to this expenditure a net sum of £340 bringing the total net estimated expenditure for the year up to £76,064.

Against this we had an estimated available balance brought forward of £1,291 and a sum of £811, one half of the estimated surplus from the Electric Lighting Undertaking, making together £2,102 towards the expenditure. In revising the Estimate at September, it was thought that the £811 would be increased by £238, and credit was taken for this further sum in making the rate for the second half-year.

The Electric Lighting Committee having been compelled to make a larger expenditure on coal than was anticipated, the surplus has not come up to the estimate, the amount being £1,934 12s. 4d., as against £2,098 estimated. There is, therefore, a loss of estimated income to the Rate Fund of £81 13s. 10d.

It is now anticipated that the expenditure of £76,064 will, by the time the accounts are closed for the year, be exceeded by a sum of £1,336 14s. 7d., the Highways Committee having overspent by £2,273. Fortunately, however, the other Committees have effected savings to set off against this, as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
The Public Offices Committee	29	8	7
The Public Health Committee..	50	16	4
The Baths and Washhouses Committee ..	203	0	8
The Finance Committee..	652	19	10
Making a total of	£936	5	5

which brings the net increase on expenditure down to £1,336 14s. 7d. In addition to this amount the following items of expenditure which were not brought into the Estimate have had to be provided for out of Revenue, viz.:—

	£	s.	d.
Expenditure in connection with the Town Hall Extension, in respect of consequential alterations, repairs and renovation of old offices and furniture	549	10	5
Private Street Works, Churches and other exemptions	102	0	6
Hospital Fencing from Capital Account ..	53	15	5
Green Man Underground Convenience (excess)	10	2	6
	£715	8	10

making a total excess expenditure of £2,052 3s. 5d.

In making the rates of 1s. 8d. in the £ for the first half-year and 1s. 7d. in the £ for the second half-year, it was estimated that a penny rate would produce £1,855, but this has been considerably exceeded, the General District Rate having produced £1,122 2s. 6d. in excess of the amount estimated.

Then the arrears of former rates have yielded £582 16s. 8d. in excess of the amount anticipated, and further sums, amounting

to £422, have been received during the year in respect of previous years which were not brought into the Estimate.

It will be remembered that in framing the Estimates the surplus from the Tramways Undertaking was estimated at £86 only, and that this was not taken into account in making the Estimate for the rates.

The working of the Tramways will, it is estimated, yield the substantial surplus of £2,846 18s. 6d., and it is recommended that one half of this should be carried to the General District Rate Fund.

The account, therefore, stands as follows:—

				£	s.	d.
Increase of yield of former rates				582	16	8
Increase in the product of the rates for the year				1,122	2	6
One half of the Tramways estimated surplus				1,423	9	3
Sums received relating to former years ..				422	0	0
Making a total of				£3,550	8	5
Less Increased requirements of Committees	£1,336	14	7			
Rate made short of amount required	721	0	0			
Decrease in Estimated Surplus from Electric Lighting Committee ..	81	13	10			
Amounts charged to Revenue before mentioned	715	8	10			
				2,854	17	3
				695	11	2
Adjustment of small balances				27	13	0
Leaving a balance available for purposes of new estimate for the ensuing year of ..				£723	4	2

The Council is fortunate in the fact that the property in the District has been so well let during the year that the rates and

the tramways have yielded so greatly in excess of the Estimates. If it had not been so there would have been a considerable deficit to be made good, and I consider it my duty to again call the attention of the Council to the serious over-expenditure of the Highways Committee, amounting to nearly a five-farthing rate. To a small extent this over-expenditure was due to the very dry summer which caused a considerable increase in the cost of watering, but excess expenditure in respect of this only accounted for a very small proportion of the amount and this was to some extent met by the increase of £276 in the income of the Baths Committee, which was brought about by the same cause. The surplus from the Finance Committee, whilst being very welcome, cannot be claimed to be a saving in expenditure, as it is largely attributable to the fact that a sum of £600 included in the Estimate for Tithe Redemption has not been expended.

The Estimates for the coming year placed before you to-night show that the total estimated expenditure of the Council, is as follows :—

	£
Public Offices and Open Spaces Committee ..	4,664
Highways Committee	34,885
Public Health Committee	23,892
Baths Committee	4,330
Finance Committee..	28,440
A total of	£96,211

Against this the following receipts are anticipated :—

	£	£
Public Offices Committee	1,132	
Highways Committee	12,237	
Public Health Committee	1,710	
Baths Committee	1,880	
Finance Committee	5,630	
A total of ..		22,589
Leaving ..		£73,622

to be provided for the work of these Committees.

In addition to this the Library Committee requires a three-halfpenny rate, which is estimated to be equal to £2,805, and the Distress Committee calls for a contribution of £300, making the total amount required £76,727.

The net amounts required by each of these Committees for the ensuing year as compared with the actual net expenditure for the current year, is as follows :—

	Year ending March, 1913.	Year ending March, 1912.		
	£	£	*s.*	*d.*
Public Offices Committee ..	3,532	3,079	11	5
Highways and Lighting Committee	22,648	24,805	0	0
Public Health Committee ..	22,182	21,329	3	8
Baths and Washhouses Committee	2,450	2,367	19	4
Finance Committee	22,810	24,425	0	2
Distress Committee	300	320	0	0
	73,922	76,326	14	7
Less proportion of estimated surplus from Electric Lighting Undertaking	502	967	6	2
	73,420	75,359	8	5
Plus Library Rate ..	2,805	2,798	18	2
	£76,225	£78,158	6	7

It will be observed that the Public Offices and Open Spaces Committee are proposing to spend about £450 more than in the current year. This is largely for wages, repairs and maintenance in connection with the Playing Fields and Recreation Grounds.

I desire to call attention to the fact that the Estimated Receipts of this Committee for the past year from Town Hall Lettings was £200, and that the actual receipts amounted to £135 14s. 2d. only. The receipts from this source in 1906–7, were £337 ; 1907–8, £355 ; 1909–10, £205 ; 1910–11, £206. This shows a gradual and serious falling off in the income of the Committee, largely due no doubt

to the ever increasing number of applications for the letting of the Hall at reduced fees, and when appeals are made to the Council in this direction it will be well to remember that Charity begins at home, and that the general body of Ratepayers must be thought of when consideration is given to these applications.

Whilst the expenditure of the Highways Committee is estimated at some £2,150 less than the expenditure of the current year, the amount of the proposed net expenditure is practically the same as that which was estimated for the current year, and it is to be hoped that the Committee will not, without warning the Council, exceed its Estimate.

The Estimated Expenditure of the Public Health Committee and the Baths Committee is practically the same as the actual expenditure for the current year.

The Finance Committee's Estimate shows an actual diminution in its net expenditure brought about by the bringing into its receipts for the first time of £1,978, the proportion of the County Council Grant for Main Roads, which is in respect of loan charges. The actual expenditure of the Committee is up £245, notwithstanding that the item of repayment of principal and interest on loans is down £735. Amongst the items of expenditure which do not appear in expenditure of the current year there is a sum of £400 for Tithe Redemption, and £470 for Contributions under the National Insurance Act.

Dealing with the Electric Lighting Committee's Estimate, it will be observed that the Estimated Receipts for the coming year amount to £36,072, which is practically the amount received during the past year, and that the estimated expenditure amounts to £35,067, leaving an estimated surplus of £1,005 on the year's trading. Of the estimated expenditure no less a sum than £12,421 is in respect of repayment of loans and interest.

Following the course adopted in previous years, it is proposed to carry one-half of this surplus to the General District Rate Fund, the remaining half going to reserve.

The Tramways Committee estimate a Revenue of £68,633, which is about £6,000 in excess of the Receipts for the current year. The expenditure, in which is included £18,093 in respect of loan charges, is estimated at £67,750, showing a surplus of £883 on the year's trading. No portion of this surplus is taken into account in the Estimate for the Rate, the Committee having followed the course adopted in past years of waiting until the surplus is ascertained before dealing with it.

The Library Committee, having kept well within their figures for the current year, estimate an expenditure of £3,120 for the coming year against an actual expenditure of £2,930 2s. 3d. during the past year, and, having only an estimated income of £120, a sum of £3,000 has to be provided to meet its expenditure. The Committee therefore asks for the usual three-halfpenny rate, which will, it is estimated, yield £2,805, the difference being made up from the estimated balance in hand at the end of the current year.

The position is, therefore, that, after deducting the sum of £723 4s. 2d., the estimated available balance at the end of the current year and £502, one-half of the estimated surplus from the Electric Lighting Committee from the total net expenditure of £76,727, there remains a sum of £75,502 to be provided during the year, of which £38,165 is required during the first half-year.

It is estimated that a penny rate will produce £1,870. A rate of 1s. 8d. in the £ will therefore realise £37,400, or £765 less than the amount actually required ; but bearing in mind that the expenditure during the second half-year is somewhat less than that of the first half, the Finance Committee feel that they can safely recommend a rate of 1s. 7¼d. in the £ for General District purposes, and ¾d. in the £ for the purposes of the Public Libraries, and I therefore move the adoption of the paragraph in the Report of the Finance Committee headed "General District and Library Rates."

Leyton Urban District Council.

Speech delivered by the Chairman of the Finance Committee (Councillor Pittam) *at the Meeting of the Council held on the 26th March*, 1912, *in moving the adoption of the Estimate for the Elementary Education Precepts for the period ending 30th September*, 1912.

Before dealing with the Estimates of the expenditure for Elementary Education for the coming year, I desire to follow the usual custom of comparing the actual receipts and payments in connection therewith during the year just ending.

At March last it was estimated that the gross expenditure for the year would amount to £102,520. Towards meeting this we had an estimated available balance of £2,679 and estimated receipts of £56,573, leaving £43,268 to be provided by the Overseers of the two parishes, and, as the estimate left the Education and Finance Committees, it was proposed to make a call of £21,500 for the first half-year.

Between the Meetings of the Finance Committee and the Council, however, an intimation was received that the receipts in respect of the Special Aid Grant for the year ending 31st March, 1911, would be some £2,000 more than was anticipated, and it was resolved that the call should be reduced to £20,500 for the first half-year.

When the Special Aid Grant was received it was found that it exceeded the amount anticipated by a trifle more than £2,000, the actual sum being £2,045 10s. 11d. Other small items of receipt and a saving of £39 9s. 1d. on the liabilities outstanding in respect of the previous year gave a total addition of £2,191 8s. 10d. to the balance available towards meeting the current year's expenditure.

Upon the revision of the Estimates in September last it became necessary to make a small addition to the estimated expenditure for the year, bringing it up to £102,533.

The actual expenditure for the year is estimated to work out to £102,026 18s. 5d., which gives a saving of £506 1s. 7d. upon the Estimate.

The receipts for the year, which were originally estimated at £56,573, are now expected to realise £59,943 5s. 9d., an increase of £3,370 5s. 9d., the Special Aid Grant, which was estimated at £11,500, being expected to produce £15,300, an increase of £3,800 from this source. The Annual Grant and the Fee Grant have, however, produced £630 less than was anticipated.

The gains for the year have therefore been as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Increase on Assets available at 31st March, 1911	2,191	8	10
Estimated increased Receipts during the year	3,370	5	9
Saving on Expenditure	506	1	7
A total of	£6,067	16	2

At September last it was resolved to call upon the Overseers for £20,700, making the total call for the year £41,200. This was £2,081 less than was anticipated when the Estimates were framed, and deducting this sum from the £6,067 16s. 2d. given above, we

now find ourselves, after making an adjustment of small balances amounting to £4, with £3,990 16s. 2d. as an estimated available balance at the end of the year.

For the coming year it is estimated that the expenditure will amount to £105,024, against an actual expenditure of £102,026 for the past year, or an increase of £2,998.

The principal variations are :—

Increases.	£
Teachers' Salaries..	1,801
Books	152
Furniture	144
Fuel and Lighting	134
Rates	130
Blind and Deaf Children	161
Tar Paving	107
Structural Alterations	214
Additional Heating	210
Officers' Salaries	157
Provision of Meals	253
Decreases.	**£**
Painting and Cleansing	318
Paving	121

The estimated income for the year is £58,422, and adding to this the estimated available balance gives £62,412 towards meeting the estimated expenditure of £105,024, leaving a balance of £42,612 to be provided.

The Committee recommend that a call of £21,300, one-half of this sum be made upon the Overseers of Leyton and Cann Hall for the purposes of the half-year ending on the 29th September next, and I now beg to move the adoption of the paragraph in the Finance Committee's Report under the heading of "Elementary Education Precepts."

MSH 20356

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